



Our Lady Immaculate & St Joseph Catholic Church

1 West Street, Prescot, L34 1LE

olisj.prescot@rcaol.org.uk

0151 426 6462

www.ourladystjoseph-prescot.co.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Risley

Sunday 22nd February 2026

First Sunday of Lent (A)



*The LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground
and breathed into his nostrils,
and the man became a living creature.*

Pope Leo XVI Lenten Message 2026

Lent emphasizes the communal aspect of listening to the word and fasting. The Bible itself underlines this dimension in multiple ways. For example, the Book of Nehemiah recounts how the people gathered to listen to the public reading of the Law, preparing to profess their faith and worship through fasting, so as to renew the covenant with God (cf. 9:1-3).

Likewise, our parishes, families, ecclesial groups and religious communities are called to undertake a shared journey during Lent, in which listening to the word of God, as well as to the cry of the poor and of the earth, becomes part of our community life, and fasting a foundation for sincere repentance. In this context, conversion refers not only to one's conscience, but also to the quality of our relationships and dialogue. It means allowing ourselves to be challenged by reality and recognizing what truly guides our desires — both within our ecclesial communities and as regards humanity's thirst for justice and reconciliation.

Dear friends, let us ask for the grace of a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to the least among us. Let us ask for the strength that comes from the type of fasting that also extends to our use of language, so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others. Let us strive to make our communities places where the cry of those who suffer finds welcome, and listening opens paths towards liberation, making us ready and eager to contribute to building a civilization of love. I impart my heartfelt blessing upon all of you and your Lenten journey.

Stations of the Cross

There will be an opportunity to pray the Stations of the Cross during Lent on Fridays at 11.30 am. The Stations of the Cross are also on the parish website on the Gallery page if you would like to pray them at home.

Palm Crosses

Traditionally, palm crosses which have been blessed and distributed on Palm Sunday are burned the following year to create the ash for Ash Wednesday. If you have any palm crosses from last year to be burnt please leave them in the basket at the back of church.

Thank you.

'I met a miracle' - the Jack Traynor story

Copies of the book 'I met a miracle' which tells the account of Jack Traynor's healing at Lourdes on the first Archdiocesan pilgrimage, are available in the Piety Stall. These books are now out of print so buy them while you can!

Minsteracres Retreat/Holiday 2026

Come and enjoy a holiday in a Passionist Retreat House in beautiful Northumberland, Friday 31st July – 6th August 2026. The cost is £625 and includes all meals and travel to and from Northumberland. The coach stays with us, so we can enjoy afternoons out to local villages and places of interest and evenings of family fun. There is a bar. A deposit of £100 secures a place is due by 15th March, the remaining balance is due by the end of June. For more information please ring Karen on 07709603166

Ecumenical Lent Course

This year's Lent Course will be follow 'The Chosen' a new drama based on the life of Jesus. The course begins on Wednesday 25th February at the Salvation Army Church on Warrington Rd, 7.30pm, lasting 6 weeks.

CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day

This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

SVP and CAFOD Work Experience

The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The experience will run from 21st – 26th June in London. Candidates must be aged 18-25 years old, but priority will be given to those in their first or second year at university. Apply here. Applications close on the 6th April. For any queries, please contact KeziaH@svp.org.uk

Church Cleaning - Wednesday at 10am. All are welcome.

First Sunday in Lent (A)
Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 21st	6.00 pm	Special Intention
Sunday 22nd	11.00 am	Tommy McGuinness
Monday 23rd	12.00 pm	Mary Roche
Wednesday 25th	12.00 pm	Private Intention
Thursday 26th		
<i>Funeral Mass</i>	<i>12.00 pm</i>	<i>Tommy McGuinness</i>
Friday 27th	<i>11.30 am</i>	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
	12.00 pm	Agnes Beesley
Saturday 28th	<i>11.00 am</i>	<i>Adoration & Confessions</i>
	12.00 pm	Paul Lowrey
	6.00 pm	Derek McEgan
Sunday 1st	11.00 am	Dennis Joseph O'Brien

Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish who have asked for our help and support:

Michael Glennon

Departed: *Tommy McGuinness*

